

loans consolidated rounded up to the nearest whole percent.

This legislation is revenue neutral and the right thing to do. Incidentally, there are some bureaucrats at the Department of Education, or at the Office of Management and Budget, or at the White House, who will complain about the \$25 million cost of this legislation being paid by reducing the mandatory administrative funds for the direct loan program. I would remind them that students are suffering in the program they promoted with these funds, that obviously the money they have for administration has not been wisely spent to date, and that fixing this problem is the right thing to do.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support us in this effort, and to cosponsor the Emergency Student Loan Consolidation Act of 1997.

**SISTER HARRIET OF CORTLAND
NAMED NATIONAL DISTIN-
GUISHED PRINCIPAL**

HON. JAMES. T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sister Harriet L. Hamilton of Cortland, NY, on the occasion of being named one of the National Distinguished Principals for 1997.

Sister Harriet is principal of St. Mary's School in Cortland. She will be honored with the other recipients September 25 and 26 here in Washington at a ceremony sponsored by the nominators, the Private School Recipients Selection Committee.

Other honorees include representatives from each State, the District of Columbia, and the Departments of Defense and State overseas schools.

Sister Harriet is the kind of inspirational, loving educator who wears many hats. She is an administrator, cafeteria monitor, custodian, bookkeeper, medic, and counselor.

She responds nurturingly to students' hugs. On snowy days she is there to take calls from parents who want to know if school will be open. When parents cannot pick up their children at school, Sister Harriet drives them home.

Sister Harriet has a special gift for motivating volunteers. She is an educator, friend, civic leader, and a woman of great faith in God. I applaud the decision to award her this great honor. And I want to publicly state that Sister Harriet is the kind of selfless individual who makes America the great country it is.

**FORT SOUTHWEST POINT'S 200TH
ANNIVERSARY**

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring the House's attention to the 200th year celebration of Fort Southwest Point, located in Kingston, TN, on Oct. 5, 1997.

Military activities at Southwest Point began in 1792 with the establishment of a block-

house post for territorial militia troops under the command of Gen. John Sevier who later became the first Governor of Tennessee. During the 1790's, most of the many settlers traveling to the Nashville area passed Southwest Point, and parties of such travelers were often accompanied along the Cumberland Road by guards supplied from the militia post.

Subsiding hostilities with the Indians contributed to a change in the role played by Southwest Point and by 1797 the militia had been replaced by Federal troops under the command of Lt. Col. Thomas Butler. From this point until the removal period, the Federal troops preserved the peace primarily by preventing illegal settlers on the remaining Cherokee lands. Fort Southwest Point's role in the peaceful coexistence with the Cherokees was enhanced in 1801 when Col. Return Jonathan Meigs was appointed to be military agent for Federal troops in Tennessee and principal agent to the Cherokee Nation.

In 1807 the garrison was removed farther into the Indian territory, and Fort Southwest Point served as a supply depot for other forts until about 1812.

Archeological work at this site began in 1974 when crews from the University of Tennessee began to uncover the site of the original fort. In 1984 a cooperative endeavor between the Department of Conservation and the city of Kingston, owner of the site, continued the investigation, and began to rebuild the fort on its original foundations. Now the fort is open as a museum staffed by city-employed agents and volunteers. Work continues on the research and rebuilding and many historically and militarily oriented events take place there. Currently celebrations are in order for the commemoration of Fort Southwest Point's 200th birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation which would adjust the rules for deducting military separation pay amounts from veterans' disability compensation.

The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997—Public Law 104-201—reduced the required offset by the amount of Federal income tax withheld from separation pay for payments received after September 30, 1996. My legislation would make the tax withholding provision retroactive to include all payments to those who were separated from the military after December 31, 1993.

This bill would reduce the offset between veterans' disability compensation and certain bonus payments for early retirement received by former members of the military services. It is important that we correct this inequity in the law that unfairly penalizes many of our Nation's veterans' who have served their country honorably.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

ABERDEEN, MD, VOTED AN ALL-AMERICAN CITY BY THE NATIONAL CIVIC LEAGUE

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege and honor to recognize a quiet town in the Second Congressional District that has been singled out for a tremendous honor.

The town of Aberdeen, MD, is probably best known for two things: being the home town of Cal Ripken, Jr., and the location of Aberdeen Proving Ground—one of the best military installations in the Nation. This summer, Aberdeen received another distinction that will bring it additional notoriety in the future: it was named 1 of 10 "All-American Cities" by the National Civic League.

Each year, NCL selects 10 American cities for this designation. As you can imagine, the competition for this honor is keen, routinely attracting applications from cities big and small across the United States. In 1997, 150 cities filed applications. Of these, just 30 were selected as finalists. The finalists traveled to Kansas City, MO where they made presentations to a panel of NCL judges.

Aberdeen was selected based upon a number of factors, particularly its innovative programs to help disadvantaged youth. Mayor Chuck Boutin and other Aberdeen city government officials are thrilled to have received this honor. On September 20, I had the honor of visiting Aberdeen and participating in a celebratory breakfast. I know the folks of Aberdeen will be celebrating for months to come, just the way they did when their town's favorite son became the "Iron Man" of baseball. I look forward to joining them in their revelry.

Mr. Speaker, every town would like to think of itself as an "All-American City," but only a precious few have earned this designation. Aberdeen is one of them. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating the good folks of Aberdeen during this special time.

TRIBUTE TO STANLEY M. UMEDA

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the Sacramento community, Mr. Stanley M. Umeda. Today, Mr. Umeda's many friends and colleagues are gathered to commemorate his 40 years of exemplary service to the State of California and the Sacramento County Welfare Department.

A graduate of California State University, Sacramento, Mr. Umeda has forged a long and distinguished career in the fields of social work and mental health. His service in the public sector dates back to 1955, when, as an undergraduate at Sacramento State University, Mr. Umeda worked for the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Upon completing his education with a master of social work degree in 1966, Mr. Umeda continued his State service as a psychiatric social worker in the California Department of